

# Mink, 1999

By Eric D. Stout

Pennsylvania's 11 mink ranchers produced 74,000 pelts in 1999, compared with 67,500 pelts in 1998. Pennsylvania ranked 9th in the nation in 1999 mink pelt production.

The number of females bred to produce kits for 2000 is estimated to be 18,300, down 3 percent from 1999.

Twenty-nine percent of the females bred to produce kits are of the gunmetal color class.

The U.S. average marketing price per pelt produced for the 1999 crop year was \$33.70, up 36 percent from the price of \$24.80 in 1998. Average prices for Pennsylvania are not available.

Pennsylvania: Mink Pelts Produced & Females Bred, By Color Class, 1997-2000						
Color Class	Pelts Produced			Females Bred to Produce Kits		
	1997	1998	1999	1998	1999	2000
Standard	2	2	2	2	2	2
Ranch Wild	2	2	2	2	2	2
Demi-Buff <sup>1</sup>	2	2	2	2	2	2
Pastel	2	2	2	2	2	2
Pale Brown	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sapphire	10,800	12,400	13,200	3,100	3,700	4,000
Gun Metal	24,200	22,900	26,100	5,700	6,000	5,300
Mahogany	4,200	2	2	2	2	2
Pearl	2	2	2	2	2	2
Pink	2	2	2	2	2	2
Violet Type	900	2	2	300	2	2
White	2	2	2	2	2	2
Misc. & Unclassified	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	70,300	67,500	74,000	18,300	18,900	18,300

<sup>1</sup> This color class includes demi-buff, dark brown, violet, pastel, standard and pearl crosses and others. <sup>2</sup> Included in total to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Pennsylvania: Mink Historical Perspective, 1978-2000 <sup>1</sup>			
Year	Ranches Producing Pelts	Females Bred	Pelts Produced
1978	46	40,800	138,000
1979	45	42,200	151,900
1980	47	44,500	156,600
1981	1	45,600	1
1982	46	44,400	156,000
1983	49	44,000	174,700
1984	48	44,000	158,600
1985	47	42,400	137,500
1986	41	39,100	140,700
1987	44	40,100	146,900
1988	43	42,000	162,700
1989	43	41,900	169,000
1990	24	27,100	95,400
1991	24	23,500	77,300
1992	21	20,200	73,200
1993	17	18,700	61,400
1994	17	19,800	68,800
1995	13	19,000	63,200
1996	13	19,200	65,700
1997	12	19,100	70,300
1998	11	18,300	67,500
1999	11	18,900	74,000
2000	-	18,300	-

<sup>1</sup> Survey was discontinued for the 1981 crop, reinstated for the 1982 crop.